IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE DIVISION CRIMINAL CASE NO. 1:11-101

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	
Plaintiff,))
vs.	ORDER
JOSE ALFREDO MACIAS LOZANO,	
Defendant.)))

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Defendant's Motion to Seal Addendum to Sentencing Memorandum [Doc. 25].

The Defendant, through counsel, moves the Court for leave to file an Addendum to the Sentencing Memorandum under seal in this case. For grounds, counsel states that the addendum includes detailed sensitive information, including identification documents for his mother and children. [Doc.25].

Before sealing a court document, the Court must "(1) provide public notice of the request to seal and allow interested parties a reasonable opportunity to object, (2) consider less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents, and (3) provide specific reasons and factual findings supporting its decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives."

Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc., 218 F.3d 288, 302 (4th Cir. 2000). In the present case, the public has been provided with adequate notice and an opportunity to object to the Defendant's motion. The Defendant filed his motion on January 17, 2019, and it has been accessible to the public through the Court's electronic case filing system since that time. Further, the Defendant has demonstrated that the supplement contains sensitive information concerning the Defendant and that the public's right of access to such information is substantially outweighed by the Defendant's competing interest in protecting the details of such information. Finally, having considered less drastic alternatives to sealing the document, the Court concludes that sealing of the Addendum is necessary to protect the Defendant's privacy interests.

Upon review of the Defendant's Addendum, the Court finds that the addendum contains case material and information of the nature that is ordinarily sealed and appropriate to be shielded from public access. <u>See</u> United States v. Harris, 890 F.3d 480, 492 (4th Cir. 2018).

Accordingly, the Defendant's Motion to Seal is granted, and counsel shall be permitted to file an Addendum to the Sentencing Memorandum under seal.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Defendant's Motion to Seal Addendum to Sentencing Memorandum [Doc. 25] is **GRANTED**, and the Defendant's Addendum to the Sentencing Memorandum [Doc. 26] shall be filed under seal and shall remain under seal until further Order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: January 23, 2019

Martin Reidinger

United States District Judge